

DES MOINES, IOWA  
REGISTER

M - 243,471  
S - 481,727

AUG 16 1976

## Mondale on CIA

"I have come to believe that there must be some fundamental changes in America's intelligence activities or they will fundamentally change America," writes Senator Walter F. Mondale (Dem., Wis.) in an article on reorganizing the Central Intelligence Agency in Foreign Policy magazine.

Mondale, whose perception was shaped by his membership on Frank Church's committee investigating U.S. intelligence agency abuses, decries the prominence of covert activity as a foreign policy tool. And he expresses dismay at the zeal of past and present intelligence officials in subscribing to tactics — among them, plotting assassinations of foreign leaders — that disgrace our country abroad and shake our foundations of democracy and liberty at home.

Mondale does not call for a ban on covert activity, but wants such activity drastically reduced. American foreign policy, he says, must be an overt operation, in which our foreign friends and their causes are readily identified and openly defended.

Mondale is right: America need not hide its affection and support for democracy abroad behind a cloak and use the dagger against those standing in the way of vaguely defined U.S. interests.

Mondale said he hopes the next U.S. president will speak to the nation and the world as follows:

"It will be the policy of the United States to conduct its relations with other countries on a straightforward basis. We will deal with other governments in confidence but not in stealth. We will be plain and direct about our own interests and concerns and about what we expect from others. We reject a policy of covert intervention into the internal affairs of other nations."

Those words were written before Mondale became the Democratic candidate for vice-president. If Mondale becomes vice-president, Americans will be indebted to him if he convinces Jimmy Carter to speak those words and to make that principle the cornerstone of our dealings abroad.